

DATA REQUESTS #6, #7 & #8
CULTURAL RESOURCES

BACKGROUND

The Confidential Technical Report, Appendix C, included responses from Native Americans who may have heritage concerns regarding the project. A copy of a letter from the Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians was provided. On SPPE application page 6.4-12, and Section Two of the Confidential Technical Report, there is a reference to comments provided by Alvida Silva who expressed concerns about the project.

DATA REQUESTS

6. Provide a copy of the response received from Alvida Silva. If the response was by telephone, please provide a summary of the concerns that were raised.
7. Provide copies of any additional written responses from Native Americans. If responses were received by telephone, please provide a summary of each conversation. If the location of archaeological sites may be revealed in the information, please provide it under a confidential cover.
8. In keeping with guidance from the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), please attempt a minimum of two telephone calls to Native American groups or individuals who were identified in the NAHC contact list and who have not responded to your inquiries. Provide a summary of conversations that includes whether the information sent by the applicant had been received and whether the Native American has any concerns regarding cultural resources in the vicinity of the project.

DATA RESPONSES

On December 19, 2005, URS received a letter (see attachment CUL-1, NAHC Letter) from the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) regarding the potential presence of Native American cultural resources in the vicinity of the Project. The letter indicated that, based on a record search of the sacred land file, no such resources were found. The letter also included a list of Native American contacts, and on December 22, 2005, URS sent a letter (see attachment CUL-2, Example Contact Letter) to all of the Native American contacts on that list in an effort to determine what concerns those entities might have with respect to the Project. URS has created a table matrix (see attachment CUL-3, Native American Contact List) that outlines all of the contacts that were made to these persons and/or organizations, and their respective responses. This Contact List is relevant to the following three Data Responses.

Docket Number 06-SPPE-1
First Round Data Requests
Niland Gas Turbine Plant
April 2006

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6. Mr. Alvino Siva (mistakenly referred to as Alvida Silva in the SPPE) was contacted, and a response was received on January 13, 2006. The nature of Mr. Siva's concern was that the Project should incorporate Native American monitoring in the event that Native American burials were identified during construction of the Project. This contact is included in the attached Contact List.
7. In addition to the letter from the Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians dated January 13, 2006, which was included in the SPPE, URS received a letter from the Ramona Band of Cahuilla, dated February 20, 2006 (see attachment CUL-4, Ramona Band Letter). Additional Native American contacts and responses are outlined in the attached Contact List. No information concerning the location of any archaeological sites was revealed in any of the communications; therefore, no materials associated with these contacts will require confidential submittal.
8. URS has made numerous attempts to contact the Native American groups or individuals who were identified in the NAHC contact list. A summary of these correspondences and/or conversations is included in the attached Contact List. The information contained in the Contact List includes whether the information sent on behalf of the Applicant had been received, and whether the Native American group had any concerns regarding cultural resources in the vicinity of the Project Site.